



East Carolina University

Brody School of Medicine

NMI

Brody Scholars Summer Enrichment Program Application

Student Information

Name: Merli Nicole Marie
Last Name First Name Middle

Date of birth: 08/18/1987 Gender (circle one): Male Female
Month / Day / Year

Mailing Address: 500 Paladin Dr. Apt. L City: Greenville, NC 27834

Home Telephone: n/a Mobile: 252-902-4792

Email: merlin05@students.ecu.edu

Personal Application Statements

Please provide a short statement describing your reasons for applying for the Brody Scholar Student Summer Enrichment grant (max. 1 double-spaced page). Please address the objectives and accomplishments you expect to achieve by participating in your desired summer enrichment opportunity.

Include where your project will take place, its purpose, and timeframe.

Provide an explanation of your expenses and the total budget.

APPLICATION DEADLINES: March 1, 2011

Return the application and all other documentation to:

James G. Peden, Jr. MD
Associate Dean for Admissions
Brody 2N-49
Greenville, NC 27834

Amazon Community and Indigenous Medicine in Ecuador

I am applying for the Brody Scholar Student Summer Enrichment grant to help offset the cost of going abroad for a medical trip. The program is through Child Family Health International, and involves going to Ecuador for 4 weeks from June 4th to July 2nd. The program focuses on community health of the rural and Amazon indigenous communities. The program will begin in Quito, and involves cultural immersion and Spanish classes, and also clinical rotations at the local hospital. After the first week, I will be going to Puyo, a rural community about 6 hours from Quito. In Puyo, I will be serving the needs of the community through activities such as anti-malaria campaigns, participating in local clinics and orphanages, and hiking into the jungle for outreach to the Shuar indigenous people.

This program will be providing me with a wonderful opportunity to increase my cultural awareness by exploring cultures that are very different from my own. This trip will allow me to see how people in Ecuador deal with providing healthcare in rural and often resource poor settings, such as the jungle. I will be able to hone my clinical skills while providing a helping hand and learning about the factors that affect the health of communities in the Amazon. Also, this trip provides the added perk of language immersion. Through a homestay environment and interactions with the local people, I will hopefully improve my Spanish language skills. Being able to speak Spanish will not only be helpful to me while I am in Ecuador, but it will certainly be an asset to me in the clinics in Eastern North Carolina, which often see large numbers of Spanish-speaking patients. Ultimately, I am hoping for a service-learning experience that will be fun and equip me with skills that I can use when I come home to better serve patients in Eastern North Carolina.

Basic Program Expenses:

Program Fee	\$2,545.00
Flight	\$900.00
Travel Immunizations	\$50.00
Total	\$3,495.00